

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, the pending claims are included herein with claims not amended at this time being marked "Reiterated."

Please cancel claims 1-5, 7, and 9 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 6, 8, 10, and 12 as follows:

6. (Amended) A transgenic animal expressing a receptor polypeptide [according to claim 1], or functional fragments thereof, wherein said polypeptide is characterized by: forming a heterodimer with retinoid X receptor (RXR), binding to a direct or inverted repeat response element motif based on the half site AGTTCA. *a²* activating transcription through response elements found in steroid inducible P450 genes in response to a wide variety of natural and synthetic steroid hormones, and being prominently expressed in the liver and the intestine.

8. (Amended) A transgenic animal transformed with nucleic acid [according to claim 7] that encodes a receptor polypeptide, or functional fragments thereof, wherein said polypeptide is characterized by: forming a heterodimer with retinoid X receptor (RXR), binding to a direct or inverted repeat response element motif based on the half site AGTTCA. *a³* activating transcription through response elements found in steroid inducible P450 genes in response to a wide variety of natural and synthetic steroid hormones, and being prominently expressed in the liver and the intestine.

~~10.~~ (Amended) A [non-uman] non-human transgenic animal transformed with a nucleic acid construct [~~according to Claim 9~~] comprising

(i) a nucleic acid that encodes a receptor polypeptide, or functional fragment thereof,
wherein said polypeptide is characterized by:

forming a heterodimer with retinoid X receptor (RXR),

binding to a direct or inverted repeat response element motif based on the half site

AGTTCA,

activating transcription through response elements found in steroid inducible P450 genes in response to a wide variety of natural and synthetic steroid hormones, and

being prominently expressed in the liver and the intestine

said nucleic acid being operatively linked to

(ii) regulatory element(s) operative for transcription of said nucleic acid and expression of said polypeptide in said animal.

~~11.~~ (Reiterated) A transgenic animal according to Claim 10, wherein said animal is further transformed with a reporter vector which comprises:

- (a) a promoter that is operable in said cell,
- (b) a hormone response element, and
- (c) DNA encoding a reporter protein,

wherein said reporter protein-encoding DNA is operatively linked to said promoter for transcription of said DNA, and

wherein said promoter is operatively linked to said hormone response element for activation thereof.

~~12.~~ (Amended) A non-human transgenic animal which express substantially no

~~[steroid] steroid or xenobiotic receptor.~~